

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-13, 15-19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2, 5 and 13 are amended and claims 3, 6 and 14 are canceled. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1-8, 12-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,566,367 to Mitsutake et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Mitsutake does not disclose the rock crystal member being disposed not to change a polarizing state of light passing through the rock crystal member, as claimed in claim 1 and similarly claimed in claim 12.

The above recited features of claims 1 and 12 are discussed in the specification on page 25, lines 4-20.

Further, rock crystal is a single crystal of SiO₂, and is an optically uniaxial crystal having Z axis as an optical axis (see page 22, line 12, and page 24, line 25 through page 25, line 1 of the specification). As disclosed above, when the traveling direction of the linearly polarized light is substantially perpendicular to the Z axis and the electric vector of the linearly polarized light is substantially parallel to or substantially perpendicular to the Z axis, the linearly polarized light will be emitted from rock crystal member with little variation in polarizing state. Further, when the traveling direction of the linearly polarized light is substantially parallel to the Z axis, the linearly polarized light will be emitted from rock crystal member with little variation in polarizing state.

However, in the other cases, for example, when the traveling direction of the linearly polarized light is substantially perpendicular to the Z axis and the electric vector of the linearly polarized light is not substantially parallel to or substantially perpendicular to the Z

axis, the incident linearly polarized light will be emitted from the rock crystal member with some variation in polarizing state.

With respect to claims 4, 7 and 15, when the projector has the arrangement as recited in claims 4, 7 and 15, a light passing through the rock crystal member can be emitted not to change the polarizing state. This is because the light is not divided into the ordinary ray and the extraordinary ray in the rock crystal member.

In contrast, in Mitsutake, quarter wavelength plate 23₁ and 23₂ divides the incident light into the ordinary ray and the extraordinary ray, so that the phase difference between the ordinary and extraordinary rays is arisen. Accordingly, the polarizing state of the light emitted from the quarter wavelength plate is changed. That is, Mitsutake utilizes the phenomenon that the polarizing state of the light is changed. However, claims 4, 7 and 15 utilized the phenomenon that the polarizing state of light is not changed.

With respect to claim 8, the applied art does not disclose a rock crystal substrate composed of rock crystal constitutes an electro-optical device. U.S. Patent No. 5,566,367 to Mitsutake does not disclose such a feature recited in claim 8.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Olff
Registration No. 27,075

Kevin M. McKinley
Registration No. 43,794

JAO:KMM/jfl

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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